A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF STUDENT CHANGEOVER

Plans are underway to ensure that this year’s student changeover is the smoothest ever and that the impact on other residents is reduced further. The departure of students from the three universities brings with it significant challenges to the City each year as large amounts of waste are generated and noise from end of year parties prevents residents from getting a good night’s sleep.

As part of our strategic commitment to ensure that the University and our students have a positive impact on society, the Sustainability Service is working in collaboration with Leeds University Union, Leeds City Council and other students unions, to put in place this year’s communications and service delivery plan. The plan will help minimise the disruption caused to local neighbourhoods in inner North-West Leeds.

Leeds University Union will again be delivering the Leave Leeds Tidy campaign on behalf of the partnership. This provides information and advice to students through a communications strategy, student warden patrols and collections of unwanted items from local communities in partnership with Emmaus. In addition, this year the partnership has been able to secure 10 new community based textile bins to make it even easier for our students to donate their unwanted clothing and all funds raised will benefit the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

In conjunction with Leave Leeds Tidy, the Sustainability Service will be running a new communications campaign to raise awareness on the impacts of noise on other residents and to encourage reporting to the Universities and Colleges Neighbourhood Helpline Service. Whilst the majority of our students do not cause any problems for their neighbours, this time of year is a peak for noise complaints as a result of end of year celebrations. Those impacted include students of the universities, FE Colleges and schools who may still be revising for their exams. The campaign will combine practical weekly tips through social media along with a corresponding blog on the Sustainability webpages.

Through combining the efforts of agencies we have successfully been able to reduce the impact of changeover year on year. We are hoping this year will be the best campaign yet and local residents will be able to recognise how we are delivering on these key neighbourhood challenges to benefit our students and the other residents alike. Please follow our progress on our various social media pages or email us at sustainability@leeds.ac.uk if you have any questions!
PROVIDING SUPPORT TO LOCAL CHARITIES
Leeds RAG continues to go from strength to strength and have been able to support more local charities and not-for-profit organisations through their Community Fund. This year, the fund was able to support 14 local charities with grants ranging from £100-1000. Charities include those providing support to young carers, older people, cancer patients, refugees and asylum seekers, homeless, Parkinson’s sufferers and children with special needs. Full details of the beneficiaries can be found through the following link. http://urlmin.com/4quin
The fund is supported by the society’s 1000 strong membership’s year-round fundraising activities as well as a generous contribution totalling £5000 by the University’s Commercial Service and Library Service.

LEEDS UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES NEIGHBOURHOOD HELPLINE SERVICE
Do your student neighbours need a little help in adjusting to living in a residential street? Whether the issue involves noise, waste, parking or playing ball games, the Universities and Colleges would like to hear about it. Register any issues of concern, involving our students, through the Universities and Colleges Neighbourhood Helpline. Even if your student neighbours will be moving in the next few weeks, it is important for them to understand their responsibilities as a Leeds resident as many students and graduates choose to stay on living in the same area.

The Helpline is a 24-hour dedicated voicemail and email service operated by the University of Leeds in partnership with Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds Trinity University College, Leeds City College and Leeds College of Music. The Helpline partnership work to educate and correct negative behaviour amongst our students.

The Helpline can be contacted on 0113 3431064 (voicemail service) or at neighbourhood.helpline@leeds.ac.uk. For more information on the service, including our procedures and annual reports, visit http://urlmin.com/4qumo
TRASH TO TREASURE TO SUPPORT THE YORKSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE

As a result of the Sustainability Service, Leeds University Union and Leeds City Council joint initiative we have been able to secure 10 new temporary textile bins from Bag It Up to intercept even more waste from landfill during this changeover. The majority of the waste produced during changeover is textiles which has a resale value. All donations made will benefit the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

The locations have been targeted in some of the most student concentrated areas to try and reduce the excessive build-up of waste in local streets. We recognise that there are additional locations which would also benefit from a textile bin and should the pilot prove a success we will have an evidence base to add even more locations next year. Whilst the textile bins are obvious to spot, our students are being notified of their location through the Leave Leeds Tidy campaign supported by the Sustainability Service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woodhouse</td>
<td>Corner of Glossop view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodhouse</td>
<td>Corner of Pennington Street/Woodhouse Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodhouse</td>
<td>Blenheim Square/Archery Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Road</td>
<td>J. Canterbury Drive/Langdale Gardens by lamp post 8C51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Road</td>
<td>Headingley Mount - next to bottle bank - nr post # 10H299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headingley</td>
<td>North Street outside Headingley Taps - by existing row of glass banks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyde Park &amp; Woodhouse</td>
<td>Queens Rd - South end by existing bottle banks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkstall</td>
<td>J. Stanmore Crescent/St Annes Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkstall</td>
<td>J. Burley Rd/St Michaels Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkstall</td>
<td>Opal - Burley Rd - on grass next to existing bottle bank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ART, ENGAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Hi My name is Flora, and as part of my Masters thesis I am looking into Art, Engagement and Sustainability. Waste is one of the most pressing issues today. Particularly plastic waste poses many threats to our environment. Currently, only 12% of waste is recycled and plastic products are still consumed excessively. When walking through Woodhouse Moor after a sunny day, waste issues and careless attitudes become very apparent. This is why I have developed a project (as part of my Masters thesis at the University of Leeds) targeting this issue and sparking a dialogue about waste and sustainability. My project aims to raise awareness for local and global waste issues. Using art as a medium of universal communication, the goal is to deliver issues to a diverse range of people, and make sustainability engaging and relatable.

The project encompasses an art installation in Woodhouse Moor on the 4th of June, made entirely of waste collected around Leeds. A sculpture made of plastic bottles will be exhibited and completed using bottles collected in the park on the day. This creative intervention aims to show how art brings people together, fosters participation and positively influences attitudes, around issues of sustainability. It is located at the cross section between the University and the Leeds community, and I hope this adds to engagement with sustainability through art.

If you are an artist and would like to contribute to this project with your own work or would like to get involved in other ways, please get in touch under ee10f2h@leeds.ac.uk. Any input is greatly appreciated. We will be situated near the skate park from 11am onwards. Hope to see you there on the 4th!
SUSTAINABILITY ARCHITECTS

The Sustainability Service has recently employed four students to work alongside the team to increase our engagement within the student body. The new position; Sustainability Architects, has come out of the strategy, and its commitment to increase awareness of, and opportunity within sustainability for students on campus. The four Sustainability Architects, Shóna, Amy, Hannah and Catherine, will each be focusing on a different section of student engagement, from linking up with societies, creating dissertation opportunities across all schools, linking in with university student governance to create a more active and engaging use of social media! This incredibly exciting opportunity within the team has really opened our eyes to a different viewpoint, and all four Sustainability Architects have fitted in perfectly within the service. Shóna, who is studying a MSc in Sustainability in School of Earth and Environment said: “My new role is great, it’s the ideal experience for a student on my course to see how sustainability is implemented in a large organisation, so not only is it great for my career - it’s also supporting my studies.”

CELEBRATING STUDENTS CONTRIBUTIONS

Held from 27th April - 7th May, Celebrate Week gives us the opportunity to celebrate our student’s achievements over the last 12 months through a week of awards and showcases in partnership with Leeds University Union. The LeedsforLife Citizenship Awards, hosted by Pro-Vice Chancellor for student Education, Professor Vivien Jones, not only celebrate the individuals who give their time to the community but also recognise the support and encouragement our students receive from voluntary and community organisations who provide the opportunities. Each year the University of Leeds and LUU support over 3000 students to engage in voluntary work or accredited placements. Eight awards were presented this year recognising the student volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution in their field.
COMMUNITY AWARD:
Amelia Norton, President of Action Student Volunteer for overseeing the delivery of 12 community based volunteering projects which have supported over 300 local people.

EDUCATION AWARD:
Engineers Without Borders for their outreach work in local schools highlighting key global challenges and bringing engineering to the classroom.

SPORT AND WELLBEING AWARD:
Kaat Marynissen for leading the development of ‘Wellfair’ to support students with mental health issues and reduce the stigma surrounding it.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARD:
Love Leeds Charity Shop for raising funds from the sale of students’ unwanted goods to support the Leave Leeds Tidy initiative.

LEADERSHIP AWARD:
Hannah Crane, LUU Sports Representative for representing 37 sports clubs and over 3000 students to help shape strategy and implement change.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD:
‘Quicksticks,’ 60 volunteers from LUU Women’s Hockey Club provided local primary school pupils with access to free hockey coaching both during and after school.

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AWARD
Helen Crisp for extending the work of the Women In Social Enterprise (WISE) working with vulnerable women to improve confidence whilst developing employability and entrepreneurial skills.